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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 11 a.m.

Senate

MONDAY, MAY 1, 2023

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TAMMY DUCKWORTH, a Senator from the State of Illinois.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Holy God, who inhabits eternity, lead our lawmakers with Your might. Help them to not run ahead of You or ignore Your wisdom. Restore their spirits with trust and hope, and order their steps toward Your desired destination. Lord, keep them calm in the quiet center of their lives so that they may be serene in life's swirling stresses. Fill them with the peace that comes from keeping their focus on You. Help them to listen to others as attentively as they want others to listen to them.

And Lord, give us wisdom regarding how to make our Nation less violent.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 1, 2023.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TAMMY DUCKWORTH, a Senator from the State of Illinois, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Ms. DUCKWORTH thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of the Anthony Devos Johnstone, of Montana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

LIMIT, SAVE, GROW ACT OF 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, for months, Democrats have been clear: The full faith and credit of the United States cannot be held hostage. For months, we asked Speaker MCCARTHY and Republicans to present a plan—a real plan—to avoid default with no brinksmanship, no hostage-taking.

But instead of presenting a viable plan, last week Speaker MCCARTHY and House Republicans passed the “Default on America Act”—a hard-right ransom note—to the American people.

Republicans’ “Default on America Act” poses two terrible choices: either default on the debt or default on our country, with severe cuts to law enforcement, veterans, families, teachers, kids—even cancer research.

Let me be clear: The Republicans’ “Default on America Act” has no future in the Senate, and it does nothing to resolve the looming default crisis. If anything, MAGA Republicans have made default more likely by locking the House into an unacceptable and very extreme position and pulling us even further apart.

According to one report by the Washington Post—and I commend everybody, Democrat and Republican to read it—but, according to this one report by

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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the Washington Post, many hard-right House Members say their DOA bill represents the bare minimum they are willing to accept—the bare minimum.

One Freedom Caucus Member said this bill is “not a negotiating piece. It is the deal” and further added that “[Speaker MCCARTHY] cannot get to 218 with changes to this deal.”

Let me read that again, because it so perfectly captures the extremist thinking on the hard right, which we all know has tremendous leverage in the House.

Speaker MCCARTHY “cannot get to 218 with changes to this deal.”

Let me just read it again. “Cannot get to 218 with changes to this deal.”

Respectfully, that is not negotiation. That is a ransom note. That is a hostage-taking tactic. It is another sign that Speaker MCCARTHY has surrendered to the extremists in his conference, who are ready to let the United States default unless they get everything—everything—they want.

Senate Democrats cannot—and will not—allow Republicans’ “Default on America Act” to become law, because the consequences of these cuts for American families would be severe. For generations, Congress has made spending and revenue decisions as part of the annual budget process. That is the appropriate place to debate, not here as a bargaining chip—a take-it-or-leave-it bargaining chip—for the hard right.

So beginning this week, our Senate committees will do what House Republicans would not do: hold hearings to expose the damage that the cuts contained in the “Default on America Act” would cause to everyday American families.

We will show the American people how the “Default Act” would rip away SNAP benefits for over a million recipients and eliminate Pell grants for tens of thousands of student loan borrowers.

We will show the American people how the “Default on America Act” would raise taxes by over \$500 billion over the next decade, crippling job creation, stifling economic growth, and squandering our future prosperity to the benefit of the Chinese Communist Party.

And we will show the American people how the “Default on America Act” would cut critical funding to nearly all sectors of American life, leading to fewer jobs, higher costs, and leaving policemen, first responders, border patrol, and our brave veterans all hanging out to dry.

We cannot move forward so long as hard-right MAGA Republicans, which we all know have tremendous, enormous leverage in the House, insist on their bill—a bill that is unacceptable to the Senate and the vast majority of the American people.

Sadly, if the hard right continues running the show in the House, the dangers of a first-ever default will keep growing day by day. And as we expose this terrible bill for what it is, Senate

Democrats’ position remains the same: The only real solution is for both parties to pass a clean bill to avoid default, with no brinksmanship, no hostage-taking.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Madam President, now on Senate business. Well, it is going to be another busy week here on the floor of the U.S. Senate. Later today, the Senate will vote on the confirmation of Anthony Johnstone of Montana to serve a lifetime appointment as a circuit court judge for the Ninth Circuit.

A graduate of Yale and the University of Chicago, Mr. Johnstone has a wealth of experience in both public service and private practice. As former members of the Montana Supreme Court attest to, Mr. Johnstone has one of the “best legal minds and is the finest and most respected legal scholar in the State of Montana.”

At the end of the week, I also filed cloture on three additional district court judges from New Jersey and New York, and Members should be advised that I will be filing on additional judicial nominations later this evening. The Senate will work on processing all of these nominees over the course of the week.

Judicial nominees remain a top priority for the Senate. Senate Democrats are proud we confirmed 119 new judges under President Biden, including 31 circuit court judges, 87 district court judges, and one groundbreaking Supreme Court Justice in Ketanji Brown Jackson. The diversity of these jurists is unlike anything our country has seen: 84 of these judges are women and 80 are people of color. The Senate will add to that impressive tally over the course of this week.

TRIBUTE TO TERRY O’SULLIVAN

Madam President, now, on a dear friend, Terry O’Sullivan. Today, it brings me immense joy, gratitude, and a little sadness to pay tribute to a giant of American labor, a hero of working families, and a leader who truly stands in a category all his own: Terry O’Sullivan, who, Friday, retired as general president of the Laborers’ International Union, or LIUNA, after more than two decades. Over the years, Terry has become one of the dearest friends I have had in Washington.

There would be no expansive middle class in America without the labor movement, and the labor movement would not be the same today without Terry O’Sullivan and LIUNA. The proud members of LIUNA helped build our roads, our bridges, and tunnels and office buildings and housing. Under Terry’s leadership, LIUNA has become the Laborers’ Union, as it is fondly known, has become one of the most impactful unions of the 21st century. It was under Terry’s watch that LIUNA workers helped clean up the wreckage of ground zero after 9/11. Under his watch, LIUNA built its first-ever high school for students to enter construction work. And it was LIUNA that organized the immigrants and supported

comprehensive immigration reform. So, unsurprisingly, anyone who knows Terry knows his loyalty lies in one place and in one place alone: the working families of LIUNA and of Americans in general.

And I know this personally: My cousin Abe Weinshall, who was a proud member of Local 79, the Hod Carriers, in New York, and they treated him so, so well, even when he had a severe illness, because the healthcare that the laborers were able to get was topnotch.

Terry’s loyalty to the working people has been very long. It is a loyalty that first drew breath in the early years of his childhood, having been raised in a union household as the son of LIUNA secretary treasurer Terrence O’Sullivan.

At 11, Terry attended his first LIUNA convention. He started early. And from there on, there was no turning back. He became a proud card-carrying member for life. After becoming LIUNA general president in 2000, Terry spent the next two decades growing, modernizing, and expanding LIUNA into one of the greatest advocates for working Americans in this century. In the face of radical wealth polarization, Terry won better wages, better benefits, and greater say about working conditions for his union members of LIUNA and for his fellow Americans.

I have known Terry a very long time. Terry first stood out to me because even at the most formal events in Washington, I noticed that Terry never wore a tie. We joke about that. But over the years, Terry has become a confidant, a brother, and someone I have turned to for advice and guidance again and again over the years. Some of my most enjoyable evenings in Washington were dinners with Terry and Yvette—his wife—and with a good glass of wine.

To listen to Terry speak is to hear a man on fire with love for his country and with love for the working families of America. To watch Terry work is to see someone singularly dedicated to his mission. And he is someone equally at ease in the boardroom, the labor rally, and the construction site. He doesn’t miss a beat going from one to the other.

And, of course, Terry is famous for his candid style and no-nonsense attitude. He is from California. I am from Brooklyn. But we share that direct speaking way. If you cross Terry’s path or the path of working families, you will quickly find out you made a powerful adversary. But if you win Terry’s heart, you will discover you found a lifelong friend, as I have discovered.

Of course, Terry’s legacy is not just felt in America but around the world. He is a proud supporter of a united Ireland and of Irish workers. Terry and I have worked together on so many Irish issues, and we have agreed to continue working together in the years ahead.

So, for me, this is not really a goodbye. Terry and I will stay good friends, working on the causes we believe in,

and hopefully having some nice dinners at his and Yvette's home on the Eastern Shore.

The work Terry began will certainly continue. The fights he advanced shall go on. And as we celebrate Terry's well-earned retirement, we wish him and his family the very, very best on their next adventure.

TRIBUTE TO BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

Madam President, finally, on another retirement announced just this afternoon: Let me close by honoring another great friend—beloved, truly beloved Member of our Senate, our dear colleague BEN CARDIN of Maryland, who announced earlier today that he will retire at the end of this term. He is one of my dearest friends in the Senate and has been for a very long time and someone I have always admired for favoring substance over flash, for digging deeply into issues, and for his ability time and time again to persuade his colleagues of the justice of his causes, often working across the aisle to turn his ideas into successful legislation.

In Senator CARDIN, the people of Maryland have been gifted with the consummate public servant. "Consummate public servant," doesn't that describe BEN so well? Whether representing Marylanders in the State House of Delegates or in Congress or in the Senate, BEN's north star has never changed: It is the people he serves, the communities he knows well, and the country he so dearly loves.

And whether in foreign or domestic issues, he put the issues first, the politics second. And in doing so, won the respect of every corner of this Chamber.

As Chair of the Small Business Committee, he spent years fighting for Main Street and been a tireless advocate for job creators and entrepreneurs, especially those who don't always have a seat at the table.

And during COVID, Senator CARDIN's leadership and expertise were absolutely essential as we passed legislation to protect family restaurants, local shop owners, independent businesses. There are tens of thousands, probably hundreds of thousands, of small businesses that are in existence now that wouldn't have been had BEN not fought so hard for them.

So, in conclusion, I wish BEN and Myrna the very best on their road ahead. I have no doubt they will find new ways to serve the State of Maryland moving forward. And we will remain friends forever.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

REMEMBERING JANET GARDNER MULLINS GRISSOM

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, over the weekend, our Nation lost an outstanding public servant, and I lost a dear friend of nearly 40 years.

Janet Gardner Mullins Grissom was a proud daughter of Louisville, a trail-blazing government leader, and my very first Chief of Staff here in the Senate. She passed away at the age of 73.

I believe Janet was a 29-year-old single mom when she and her young daughter Shannon arrived here in the Nation's Capital, determined to start a new chapter. To give you a sense of Janet's spirit, here is what she would later say about her first job interview:

I told them I could take dictation, which I couldn't, but I figured I could learn.

Janet had smarts. She had tenacity. And she had a communication style that one might delicately call direct. Our hometown newspaper would later report that she had "a salty tongue." Well, that was putting it mildly. She was a riot. She was a force of nature. And those qualities fueled a meteoric rise.

By the time I met Janet at some parent-teacher function at both of our daughters' school back in 1983, she had already ascended to the top rank of Senate staffers and actually left Washington to go back home to Louisville.

As you can imagine, I had to cajole Janet into heading up my long-shot first Senate campaign. I understand Shannon only permitted her mom to take the job and the potential return to Washington that winning might entail because Janet had assured her there was virtually no chance we would pull it off. Surprisingly, we did pull it off. We packed our boxes for Washington. I believe Shannon at least got a new puppy for a consolation prize.

Janet's veteran know-how helped me hit the ground running and make an impact from the start. She could ask for sensitive meetings, explain detailed policy issues, and curse a blue streak at some unruly reporter—and that she would all do before lunchtime. You couldn't imagine a better friend to have in your corner.

I believe she was the first woman to serve two different Senators as chief of staff. After my office, Janet's next stop was the political operation of then-Vice President Bush. That is where she met James A. Baker after he left President Reagan's Cabinet to oversee the Bush campaign in 1988. Apparently, while the other campaign staff greeted the famous newcomer with the awe and deference one might expect, Janet marched down the hallway barefoot and said: "Hey, Jim, nice to meet you." Everyone else recoiled, but Jim Baker laughed. When he became Bush 41's Secretary of State, Janet went with him and served as Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs. When Baker became White House Chief of Staff, Janet went with him and became an assistant to the President. And when Janet left government for the private sector, she kept on blazing trails. She spent a decade helping steer the Ford Motor Company as a senior officer.

So Janet Mullins Grissom built a prototypical Washington, DC, power-

house resume by being a thoroughly untypical Washington person. Brilliant and accomplished, yes, but tough as nails and a little rough around the edges in the best ways.

That same spine of steel helped Janet hold a serious illness at bay for a number of years. Up to just a few days ago, she was still in the fray, still tweeting up a storm on politics and media criticism, relishing the good fight right to the end.

Janet lived to see her most lasting legacy come full circle. Her older grandson, Harry, has a startup business. Her younger grandson, Sam, has gone into political communications himself. He even spent a couple of years in my office as an outstanding speechwriter and press aide. I know Janet was thrilled to see the boys thriving.

Elaine and I send our deepest condolences to Janet's husband Tom, her beloved daughter Shannon, and her grandchildren, Harry and Sam, and all the family members, friends, and colleagues mourning this tremendous loss.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I am here to discuss the Defense Department's financial audits—or, more accurately, the lack of credible audits. My colleagues know that I am as stubborn as a mule when it comes to my oversight work of the Pentagon's accounting system—or lack of system.

I wish I could stop sounding like a broken record when talking about the Pentagon's financial track record.

The fact is that the Pentagon is pig-headed when it comes to accounting for taxpayer dollars. It keeps pouring billions of dollars into an antiquated accounting system that doesn't work.

Late last year, I read an article that appeared in a national security blog. The blog is called War on the Rocks. This blog article is called "The Pentagon Can't Count: It's Time to Reinvent the Audit." It was written by Steve Blank, a business professor at Stanford University.

As a former member of the Defense Business Board, the professor calls for a whole new approach to defense auditing. The Pentagon is spending \$1 billion a year—and these are his quotes—"to get incrementally better" and still, according to him, clean opinions are nowhere in sight.

He raises a legitimate question: Why is the Pentagon spending so much money for so little results—meaning money on audits?

Thinking outside the box was not in the Defense Business Board's charter,

but Professor Blank allowed himself the luxury of thinking outside the box. He dreamed about doing the impossible, and he wrote this fairly long quote:

What if we could invent the future? It dawned on me.

Continuing to quote:

If we tried to look over the horizon, we would discover that the department could audit faster, cheaper, and more effectively by inventing future tools and techniques rather than repeating the past.

The professor envisioned a “5th generation of audit practices” to break the cycle of audit failures at the Department of Defense.

I give the professor very high grades for creativity and his search for new solutions but disagree with some of his thinking.

However, when it comes to pinpointing the root cause of unending audit failures, the professor hits the nail on the head.

So I quote from him:

[The] Department of Defense needs to lead the audit industry to create a 21st century integrated finance and accounting system, including a U.S. Standard General Ledger that provides reliable and complete data.

“Integrated systems” and “reliable data” are the magic words.

The experts, like the auditors, the financial managers, the inspector general, have known this truth for 30 years or more. They dutifully report it, wringing their hands in frustration, and then rinse and repeat the cycle from 1 year to the next year.

Now, see here. We have the mighty Pentagon that develops the most advanced weapons systems the world has ever known. Yet, when it comes to deploying basic technology like an accounting system, it is buffaloes—or is it? Maybe they want the system to work that way so nobody knows what is going on and how the money is spent.

After hundreds of billions have been poured into patching up old audit systems, the Department of Defense still can't perform the most elementary accounting tasks in the book. They don't capture transactions as they occur and post them to the correct accounts. So just go figure what is wrong.

Well, there once was a true sage assigned to an attic cubbyhole at the Pentagon who claimed to know the answer. That person was A. Ernest Fitzgerald. We called him Ernie. Ernie was the Management Systems Deputy of the Air Force in the Comptroller's office. He blew the whistle on the C-5A cost overruns and, of course, got fired when President Nixon didn't like what he testified to before the Congress of the United States.

Some years after being restored to his post—and he was restored only by court order—he was detailed to my staff for several years to lead a joint review of the internal controls over vendor payments. Ernie believed the Pentagon barons lorded over their financial fiefdoms for one reason and one

reason only: They did not want to see the status quo go away. It is pretty simple. Keeping the books in disarray gives the Department of Defense the so-called flexibility to hide overspending and other financial shenanigans.

Once upon a time, a promising fix lent credence to Ernie Fitzgerald's theory. It was called the Defense Corporate Database/Warehouse System. It was at the threshold of success when it got torpedoed—and torpedoed by whom? By the bureaucrats in the Defense Department. That system could have been a building block for a modern accounting system that might have delivered a victory to the American taxpayer.

If the brass were truly committed to cleaning up the books, it would have happened long ago. The technology is there for the taking. To break out of the cycle of failures, we need to step back, hit the audit reset button, and chart a new course.

As a first step, Secretary of Defense Austin should hold the Chief Financial Officer accountable for failing to have an accounting system that meets statutory requirements. That is as simple as accounting 101 and accountability 101 in my book. If Secretary Austin holds the CFO's feet to the fire, just maybe we will finally see a course correction.

As a lifelong family farmer, I can tell you that hope springs eternal at the start of every planting season. After four decades of working to weed out the fiscal mess at the Pentagon, it is a tall order to be optimistic. I am not going to give up. I am not going to give up this fight. With the help of a team of auditors under the leadership of the Government Accountability Office's general counsel, Emmanuelli Perez, and support from our allies, maybe together we can nudge the Department in a new direction. Otherwise, expect more of the same—a colossal waste on failed audits.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, over the weekend, the small town of Cleveland, TX—more or less in East Texas; east at least of Conroe and the Houston area—they experienced a shocking crime. We are still learning more details about the perpetrator and exactly what happened that led to such horrific bloodshed, but here is what we know right now.

Late on Friday night, 38-year-old Francisco Oropesa was firing his gun in his front yard in this rural part of the

State. His neighbor came over and asked him to stop, respectfully, because it was just about midnight and the neighbor explained he had an infant at home who was trying to get some sleep. He asked that Oropesa shoot farther away from the home, hoping to minimize the disturbance to his 1-month-old son. Oropesa refused. He said he could do anything he wanted on his property and continued shooting.

The neighbors did what anyone else would do under the circumstances: They called law enforcement. They called the police. The gunshots continued, so the neighbors called the police again, eventually calling five times.

Before police could arrive, Oropesa stormed his neighbor's home with a gun and began firing, and he killed five people before fleeing. He remains at large. All of the victims found inside the home were killed in what law enforcement has described as execution-style shooting.

The first victim was 25-year-old Sonia Argentina Guzman, a mother of three. Sonia's husband Wilson had been the one to go to the door and ask that the shooting stop so their 1-month-old son could get some sleep. While Sonia's husband, infant son, and 2-year-old daughter survived the shooting, her eldest son did not. At just 9 years old, her son, Daniel Enrique Lazo Guzman, was also murdered by Oropesa. The other victims were family friends who had been at their home that evening. This includes 21-year-old Diana Velasquez Alvarado, 31-year-old Julisa Molina Rivera, and 18-year-old Jose Jonathan Casarez.

I can't imagine the shock and grief these families are experiencing today. What they thought was just a normal Friday night surrounded by family and friends turned into a life-shattering day because of the actions of this criminal. My prayers are with these families as they search for peace, healing, and justice.

In the wake of this tragedy, Governor Abbott's office announced that the suspect had been in the United States illegally and had been previously deported four times. He never should have been in the United States in the first place.

As devastating and unimaginable as this story is, it is not entirely unique. I remember the murder of Kate Steinle in 2015. She and her father were walking alongside a pier in San Francisco when she was shot and killed. The man who killed her was an illegal immigrant who had been deported not once, not twice, but five times. He had seven felony convictions.

I want to be abundantly clear about one point: The actions of these criminals do not and should not reflect on the tens of millions of law-abiding immigrants in this country. Any attempt to frame immigrants in general as a threat to our country is completely devoid of facts and detached from reality.

But my point in sharing these stories is to prove that there are devastating

consequences when the Biden administration simply refuses to enforce the law both at and inside of our borders.

Since President Biden took office, now about 2½ years ago, Customs and Border Protection has logged more than 5 million border crossings—an unprecedented number. Most of these individuals probably came to the United States for economic reasons, which, as we know, does not in and of itself qualify them for asylum. Some are probably escaping persecution, which will likely qualify them for asylum under the U.S. law. Some—although certainly another small percentage—are dangerous criminals who have been convicted of serious crimes.

Since October, Border Patrol has arrested more than 5,000 convicted criminals at the border who have been convicted of everything from burglary and assault to drug trafficking and murder. The big caveat to remember is, these are just the ones we know about. When thousands of migrants illegally cross the southern border every day, it completely overwhelms our border patrol and law enforcement authorities.

Law enforcement is pulled from the frontlines to help feed and care for these migrants, including unaccompanied children, creating a veritable gateway for dangerous criminals and drugs to make their way into the United States undetected.

Earlier this year, Border Patrol told news outlets that 1.2 million migrants had evaded law enforcement since President Biden took office. In other words, we know how many law enforcement encountered, but the so-called “got-aways”—1.2 million of them—we have no inkling what they are up to, whether they are economic migrants simply looking for a better life. My guess is, probably not. My guess is that they were probably either convicted criminals who knew they would not be allowed into the United States or they were people who were transiting the United States, carrying drugs into the interior.

These “got-aways”—that number is not just one pulled out of thin air. These individuals are detected by cameras, sensors, or other forms of surveillance but never arrested or processed by Border Patrol because they are simply overwhelmed. These are the ones who are running away from the Border Patrol instead of turning themselves in to claim asylum, like the majority of immigrants.

I have no idea where these 1.2 million people are or what they are doing, but neither does President Biden; neither does Customs and Border Protection; neither do any of our law enforcement Agencies know where these 1.2 million migrants are or what they are doing. Maybe, just maybe—I would say in all likelihood—inside of that number, some subset are probably murderers, rapists, child abusers with lengthy rap sheets. Maybe they are cartel members smuggling fentanyl and other dangerous drugs into our communities.

Maybe they are members of criminal gangs like MS-13 or other transnational gangs.

The truth is, President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas, as Secretary of Homeland Security, have no idea who or what is coming across our border every day.

When title 42, which, as we all know, is the public health title that has been used to expel some migrants during the pendency of the pandemic—when it expires next Thursday, the number of migrants coming across the border every day will soar, making it even easier for criminals and gang members to sneak into the United States, along with the drugs that have taken too many lives in recent years.

One hundred and eight thousand Americans died of drug overdoses last year, 71,000 from fentanyl. All that comes across the border. We know where it is coming from, but President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas have done too little to stop it. In fact, their policies have encouraged more and more people to come.

Law enforcement depends in part on deterrence, people knowing that “If I try, I am unlikely to be successful, so I am not going to try in the first place.” That is how law enforcement manages their business. But when people see no likelihood of negative consequences, they are going to keep coming, and we understand exactly why. Unfortunately, this allows dangerous individuals into the United States, and the odds of them being arrested and removed by the Biden administration are extremely low.

So this is a problem not only at the border, this is a problem once these individuals make their way inside the United States.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, otherwise known as ICE, is charged with removing individuals who are illegally present in the United States.

In fiscal year 2020, the Agency deported just over 100,000 individuals. That is fiscal year 2020. For context, U.S. Customs and Border Protection logged 458,000 border crossings during that period.

Once President Biden took office and the welcome mat came out and people knew that our borders essentially were open, things have changed dramatically. In fiscal year 2022, the number of deportations fell to just over 38,000—from 100,000 in 2020 to 38,000 in 2022—while the number of border encounters has skyrocketed. Customs and Border Protection logged nearly 2.4 million border crossings that year.

So day after day, the Biden administration is allowing more and more migrants to enter the United States illegally, despite the fact that the vast majority of these individuals have no legal basis to stay, but they are depending on their system being overwhelmed and so are the people who are getting rich, getting paid by the head to smuggle those individuals into the United States.

But at the same time, the administration is doing less and less to actually enforce the law and remove those who have been found to have no credible claim to remain in the United States. The Biden administration simply refuses to enforce America’s immigration laws, and its policies have real and deadly consequences.

It is dangerous for the migrants to make the long trip from their home in the hands of cartels who care nothing for them. They don’t care about people. They just care about the money and the drugs. As a consequence, many migrants are hurt and abused and extorted by the cartels and coyotes en route. Many girls and women are sexually assaulted in astonishingly large numbers.

It is hurtful to law enforcement who are overworked, unappreciated, and burnt out. These policies hurt the border communities like the ones I represent that are expected to shoulder the massive weight of this humanitarian crisis because the Federal Government and the Biden administration refuses to do its job. It hurts small towns, medium-sized towns, and large towns all across America that have been infiltrated by fentanyl and other deadly drugs. And as we saw again this weekend, the administration’s policies victimize people who are attacked by dangerous individuals who never should have been in the United States in the first place.

How much pain and suffering will our country have to endure before the Biden administration takes this seriously? It is past time to secure the border, enforce our immigration laws, and prioritize the safety and security of the American people. Until then, I am sad to say, innocent people will continue to suffer due to the administration’s failed policies.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF JULIE A. SU

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, I rise today to express my strong support for Julie Su’s nomination to serve as our next Secretary of Labor.

As we continue working to rebuild and strengthen our economy, it is critical that the Department of Labor is led by someone committed to protecting the rights of all workers, and that person is Julie Su. From combating wage theft to expanding workforce training, Acting Secretary Su has spent her life fighting for workers. For the past 2 years, she has served as Deputy Secretary of Labor alongside Secretary Walsh. Together they helped make life better for workers across the

country. Thanks to their hard work, our country has added a record 12.6 million jobs over the last 2½ years. What is more, unemployment is at its lowest level in more than 50 years, a testament to the hard work of Secretary Walsh and Deputy Secretary Su.

And before coming to Washington, Julie spent decades fighting for workers in her home State of California as Secretary of Labor in California, Commissioner of Labor, and as a civil rights attorney.

Beyond her stellar professional track record, Julie's personal history informs her commitment to building an economy that puts workers first. Like me, Julie is a daughter of immigrants. Her mother came to America from China on a cargo ship, unable to afford a passenger ticket. After arriving in the United States, she got a good job with a union with predictable hours, paid sick leave, and a reliable income. That job helped Julie's mother and father go on to become business owners themselves, ultimately running a franchise pizza restaurant and a laundromat.

Thanks to her parents' hard work, Julie went on to attend Stanford University and Harvard Law before receiving a prestigious MacArthur Genius award for her work fighting for undocumented garment workers in California.

Julie Su is a relentless advocate for workers, and she also knows how to build consensus. It is no wonder, then, that she enjoys broad support from business and labor alike, garnering the endorsement of groups including the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Small Business Majority, the AFL-CIO, and dozens of labor unions across the country.

She has the support of leaders like Cecil Roberts, president of the United Mine Workers of America, who said last month that Acting Secretary Su is "straightforward, very knowledgeable and a passionate advocate for workers and their families. President Biden has made the right choice for Secretary of Labor"—and Secretary Walsh himself, who said that he has "the utmost confidence in [Julie's] ability to sustain the work of the department and advance the President's vision of an economy that puts workers first and leaves no one behind."

I couldn't agree more. Confirming Julie Su should be a no-brainer, just like it was 2 years ago when every Democrat in the Senate voted to confirm her as Deputy Secretary of Labor. But special interests are working hard to block her nomination, lobbying unfair attacks and intentionally misrepresenting her record.

In States like West Virginia, Montana, and Arizona, massive billboards have been erected suggesting that Deputy Secretary Su's confirmation would harm our economy. They claim—outrageously—that she is somehow working to destroy franchise businesses like the one her own family ran. In reality, she has worked to ensure workers at

all franchise businesses have basic protections so that those businesses and their employees can thrive.

They claim that she has worked in the so-called gig economy—another lie. What she has done is crack down on corporations like Uber, exploiting hard-working Americans for their own profit, because Deputy Secretary Su understands that our economy can thrive only if workers have the dignity and support they deserve.

What we are witnessing is a coordinated campaign by those on the right to discredit Julie Su and her impressive record, but her credentials are as clear as can be. And as we enter Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would be remiss not to also mention the important role Acting Secretary Su will play as the only AAPI Cabinet-level Secretary in the Biden-Harris administration.

Confirming Julie Su as Secretary of Labor is one of the most important things we can do to support workers, strengthen small businesses, and ensure our economy works for all of us—for working people.

I look forward to voting for her nomination; and, for our country and our economy, I hope this body will confirm Julie Su without delay.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, last month, I continued my annual 95-county tour with a swing through East Tennessee. Over the past few years, this area has experienced both economic growth and a population boom. So the people who live there have seen firsthand what can happen when Tennesseans are allowed to build and nurture a community free from the heavy hand of government.

But they also know how fragile that stability can be, and they are just baffled by Joe Biden's determination to ruin what they and millions of other Americans have worked so incredibly hard to build. In just over 2 years, Joe Biden and the Democrats have sabotaged our national defense, our border security, and public safety in the name of dangerous woke agenda items that prioritize mandates and intellectual conformity over the safety and security of the American people.

Tennesseans are worried about the rise of the new "axis of evil." Joe Biden is allowing Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea to cross one line after another, and that is not going over very well. Neither is the Biden administration's neglect of a security risk that hits much closer to home.

So far this year, Border Patrol and other law enforcement officials have reported almost half a million encounters with migrants trying to illegally cross our border. Over the course of this fiscal year—now, the numbers I am going to give you are for this fiscal year. They have recorded 332 encounters with people who are on the Terrorist Watchlist. That is right. Three hundred thirty-two have been apprehended at the border. These are people who are terrorists. They are on the watchlist, which means, if you catch them, they cannot come into this country.

They have apprehended 330 dangerous gang members—that is MS-13 and that is other of these gangs—who are trying to get into the country, and they have seized almost 19,000 pounds of drugs.

Now, this is what we know, and we can only estimate how many other terrorists or gang members or criminals escaped into the country and how much deadly contraband did they bring with them because they are all in the category of "got-aways." They are the people that you see on surveillance, but you cannot get to them. They are "got-aways" or they are people who, after the fact—you don't see them, but after the fact, you find things that they have left along their path as they have escaped into this country. So think about those numbers and who might be coming in.

Now, when you look at it, this is a total neglect of our most basic line of defense, and it might be easier to comprehend were it not for this administration's betrayal of local law enforcement. The President has denied that he supports the anti-police movement, but I would remind the President and my Democratic colleagues that acting on anti-police sentiment behind the scenes is still anti-police.

Making the job of law enforcement harder to do every day is anti-police; using the bureaucracy to undermine access to grant funding and lifesaving resources—that is anti-police; and deliberately leaving our border wide open to the drug mules, bringing fentanyl into our backyards—that is anti-police. Allowing the cartels and the human traffickers to run rampant, turning human trafficking from a \$500-million-a-year business, which it was in 2018, to a \$13-billion-a-year business—that is anti-police. The damage that this administration has done in just under 2½ years will take a lot longer than that to repair.

But simply answering one sweeping policy change with another won't magically reverse the ripple effects of this complete breakdown in orderly governance. Yes, we have to reverse policy, but we must also pay attention to the problems that have left local leaders, law enforcement officials, and families begging for help.

So let's kind of work through these issues, because they are of concern to Tennesseans. Tennesseans feel like this administration is seeking to normalize

lawlessness. They feel they are seeking to normalize lawlessness—because of that open border, because of the sentiments and the actions that are anti-law enforcement. They are seeking to normalize lawlessness.

Now, at the border, the immediate solution, of course, is to eliminate incentives to illegal immigration, to fund the border patrol, and invest heavily in both a physical barrier and enhance technology.

Now, these are two things that the Border Patrol has been asking for about three decades. Give us a barrier of some type; and where you can't have a barrier, give us better technology.

Now, we also need to address the plagues of drug smuggling and human trafficking. The Biden administration's refusal to stand up to the cartels has turned every town into a border town and every State into a border State. Between August of 2021 and August of 2022, the United States lost more than 107,000 people to drug overdose. Now, 66 percent of these deaths were due to fentanyl. So 107,000 people lost their lives to drugs. They are coming primarily over that southern border. Talk to any law enforcement officer, they will tell you the majority of the drugs they apprehend are coming across that southern border. The majority of those drugs is fentanyl.

Now, I want you to think about this. We all know about World War I, the lives that were lost—precious lives; World War II, the lives that were lost; the Vietnam War; the Gulf War. Here are some stats for you.

In World War I, you had 116,516 U.S. citizens who lost their lives. In World War II, it was 420,200; in Vietnam, 58,220; the Gulf War, 383. So think about that and what we did to protect those lives. And think about what is happening with these drugs coming over that border and this administration not willing to close that border. And in 1 year—1 year—1—107,000 lives. Think about that. Why will this administration not step up, man up, and work to secure that border?

Maintaining the title 42 order will help us keep what little control we have over the cross-border drug trade. Tens of thousands of migrants are waiting for May 11 to roll around so they can flood the border. And we are watching that footage right now. I would encourage any of my colleagues who are not watching this footage, you need to log on and look at how people are coming up. El Paso, I think they have had 15,000 people over the weekend that have come to that border. The numbers are staggering. We are not ready for this.

Last week, my Tennessee colleague Senator HAGERTY and I reintroduced the Stop Fentanyl Border Crossing Act, which would preserve the continued use of title 42 authority to remove illegal border-crossers and interrupt drug smuggling operations along the border.

The SAVE Girls Act, which is a bipartisan bill I introduced with Senator

KLOBUCHAR last month, has a similar goal of thwarting human trafficking operations.

Here is another stat for you. These are not my numbers; these are the administration's numbers. The State Department estimates that between 14,500 and 17,500 people are trafficked into the United States every year. Most of these people that are trafficked across that southern border—that is what we are talking about here, that is the universe—and they are looking at between 14,500 and 17,500. Most of them are women. And it is upsetting to realize that 90 percent—90 percent—of these women and girls become the victims of sexual exploitation.

The SAVE Girls Act would authorize an additional \$50 million in grant funding to prevent the trafficking of women and girls and protect children who have been smuggled across this border. Why are we doing this? Because it is our local law enforcement—they are the ones who are on the front lines in this. They are the ones who are conducting rescues and pulling these women and girls away from these traffickers, away from these pimps, that are rescuing them and getting them to safety.

We all know that no bill, no matter how effective, can stop these criminal enterprises entirely, just as no amount of policing or community support can eliminate local crime.

Still, our police departments are in trouble. Tennessee is no exception. In April of last year, the Knoxville Police Department was 10 percent understaffed.

As of last December, the Nashville Police Department was 193 officers short. Morale is a problem, but so is a lack of funding and resources.

So in March, Senator OSSOFF and I introduced the bipartisan Filling Public Safety Vacancies Act, to provide a one-time emergency boost in funding to help departments hire officers and sheriff's deputies.

The bill conditions this funding on the implementation of new vetting procedures not currently required by Federal law. I have also introduced a series of bills that would protect schools from becoming key targets for criminals.

The SAFE Schools Act would establish a \$900 million grant program to train and hire safety officers and to increase physical security at our schools.

The bipartisan Enhancing K-12 Cybersecurity Act would provide resources and information to schools that will help prevent cyber attacks and establish a better system for tracking cyber attacks nationally.

I want to emphasize again that many of these bills are bipartisan. We could pass them this week, and they would each make a difference right away in places like the State of Tennessee. There are things that our citizens want to see done.

There is no good reason to delay these bills. They would help to make our communities safer. It would be another tool in the toolbox for our local

elected officials and citizens who want to see our schools and our community safer, who want our law enforcement agencies to be able to hire and train more police. They would be pro-law enforcement, pro-safety, pro-security principals.

This administration's refusal to govern and their neglect of our most basic institutions has left Tennesseans really unsettled. They worked so hard to build what they have, and they cannot believe that they are looking at an administration that would seek to tear it down. They are frightened of how quickly things have become so out of control.

They deserve better than an uncertain future controlled by a President who is asleep at the wheel and a Congress that refuses to put politics aside and work in the best interest of the American people.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. TESTER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF ANTHONY DEVOS JOHNSTONE

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Anthony Johnstone to a Montana seat on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Johnstone is an accomplished appellate litigator, academic, and public servant and was unanimously rated "well qualified" by the ABA. He received degrees from Yale University and the University of Chicago Law School before clerking for Judge Sidney Thomas, whom he has been nominated to succeed.

Mr. Johnstone began his career in private practice as a commercial litigator in New York before returning to Montana to pursue a career in both public service and academia. From 2004 to 2011, Mr. Johnstone served in the Montana Department of Justice. In recognition of his legal acumen, he was appointed State solicitor—Montana's top appellate lawyer—in 2008. In this role, he handled 29 cases on appeal, including 19 as sole or chief counsel of record.

Since 2007, Johnstone has also served as a professor at the University of Montana Blewett School of Law. He teaches courses on constitutional law, legislation, the regulatory process, and other topics. In addition to teaching, he is also a prolific writer and has authored pieces on federalism, the law of democracy, and issues of importance to rural communities—including those located in the Ninth Circuit's jurisdiction.

Mr. Johnstone has earned the trust of leaders throughout the Montana legal community. With his experience in both legal practice and legal theory, along with his unwavering commitment to the Constitution and the rule

of law, Mr. Johnstone will be an exceptional judge on the Ninth Circuit.

I strongly support his nomination and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. TESTER. Madam President, I rise today to speak in support of Anthony Johnstone's confirmation to be a judge for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

I am very proud to be supporting this Montanan for such an important position. He is going to bring something that we are in need of in this body a lot of the time, and that is common sense. He is also a man of integrity.

Americans expect their judges to apply the law without bias, in a non-partisan way, and that is exactly what Anthony Johnstone has done throughout his legal career. He has an outstanding record of service to the people of Montana. He served as clerk for Judge Sid Thomas on the Ninth Circuit and then as our State solicitor and assistant attorney general at the Montana Department of Commerce.

For more than a decade, he has encouraged the next generation of legal minds at the University of Montana's Alexander Blewett III School of Law.

He is supported by Democrats and Republicans alike, including the past two attorney generals from Montana—one from each party. He is supported by Montana's former Republican solicitor general. He is supported by retired Montana Supreme Court justices. He is supported by Tribes across the great State of Montana. And he is supported by former Yale and Chicago Law classmates and countless other public servants across the Ninth District.

Mr. Johnstone has stood up for our Constitution time and time and time again. I have no doubt that he will continue to do that as a judge. We have the opportunity—the opportunity here in a moment—to confirm an excellent and impartial legal mind to the Ninth Circuit bench. I would urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting Anthony Johnstone's nomination.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

VOTE ON JOHNSTONE NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Johnstone nomination?

Mr. TESTER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-

SMITH), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS).

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 101 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Baldwin	Heinrich	Sanders
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Schatz
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schumer
Booker	Kaine	Shaheen
Brown	King	Sinema
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Smith
Cardin	Lujan	Stabenow
Carper	Markey	Tester
Casey	Menendez	Van Hollen
Collins	Merkley	Warner
Cools	Murphy	Warnock
Cortez Masto	Murray	Warren
Duckworth	Ossoff	Welch
Durbin	Padilla	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Peters	Wyden
Gillibrand	Reed	
Hassan	Rosen	

NAYS—45

Blackburn	Graham	Paul
Boozman	Grassley	Risch
Braun	Hagerty	Romney
Britt	Hawley	Rounds
Budd	Hoeven	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lee	Sullivan
Cramer	Lummis	Thune
Crapo	Marshall	Tillis
Cruz	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	Moran	Vance
Ernst	Mullin	Wicker
Fischer	Murkowski	Young

NOT VOTING—6

Barrasso	Hyde-Smith	Manchin
Feinstein	Kelly	Ricketts

The nomination was confirmed. (Mr. HEINRICH assumed the Chair.) The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 127.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Wesley L. Hsu, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented

under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 127, Wesley L. Hsu, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Brian Schatz, John W. Hickenlooper, Margaret Wood Hassan, Gary C. Peters, Mark Kelly, Jack Reed, Tammy Duckworth, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Catherine Cortez Masto, Mazie K. Hirono, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jeanne Shaheen, Tammy Baldwin, Angus S. King, Jr., Alex Padilla, Robert Menendez, Michael F. Bennet.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 125.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of LaShonda A. Hunt, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 125, LaShonda A. Hunt, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Brian Schatz, John W. Hickenlooper, Margaret Wood Hassan, Gary C. Peters, Mark Kelly, Jack Reed, Tammy Duckworth, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Catherine Cortez Masto, Mazie K. Hirono, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jeanne Shaheen, Tammy Baldwin, Angus S. King, Jr., Alex Padilla, Robert Menendez, Michael F. Bennet.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 79.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Colleen Joy Shogan, of Pennsylvania, to be Archivist of the United States.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 79, Colleen Joy Shogan, of Pennsylvania, to be Archivist of the United States.

Charles E. Schumer, Ben Ray Lujan, Alex Padilla, Christopher Murphy, Jeff Merkley, Michael F. Bennet, Tammy Baldwin, Richard J. Durbin, Mazie Hirono, Gary C. Peters, Tammy Duckworth, Catherine Cortez Masto, Cory A. Booker, Jack Reed, Raphael G. Warnock, Tim Kaine, Christopher A. Coons.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 66.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Geeta Rao Gupta, of Virginia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 66, Geeta Rao Gupta, of Virginia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues.

Charles E. Schumer, John W. Hickenlooper, Alex Padilla, Christopher A. Coons, Tina Smith, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tim Kaine, Jeanne Shaheen, Sheldon Whitehouse, Tammy Baldwin, Patty Murray, Michael F. Bennet, Elizabeth Warren, Tammy Duckworth, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Christopher Murphy, Catherine Cortez Masto.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, May 1, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING LOWELL SACHNOFF

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, in the Jewish faith, there is a concept known as Tikkun olam. It refers to our responsibility to heal the world through good deeds and devotion to others. I want to tell you about a man who devoted all 92 years of his life to healing our world. His name was Lowell Sachnoff. He was a man who found joy in life, the law, and the cause of equal justice for all. And he brought that joy to all of us who were lucky to count him as a friend.

Lowell passed away last month, peacefully, in his home in Evanston, IL. And saddened as I am by his loss, I am—above all—grateful that I got to know him. Lowell was a model of kindness, curiosity, and integrity. And in the words of his wife Fay, he was “absolutely fearless when it came to representing the downtrodden, ignored, and abused.” Our world is a better place because of his lifetime of service.

Lowell's commitment to serving others began where he was born and raised: on Maxwell Street in Chicago. He grew up in a community of hardworking, Jewish immigrants during the Depression. And even from a young age, Lowell had a hunger for healing our broken world. It is only fitting—Lowell was raised by a family whose own world had been shattered by hate and persecution. His parents and grandparents were forced to flee their

ancestral homeland of Ukraine because of pogroms targeting Jews.

As a child, Lowell's grandparents would tell him stories about those dark days in Ukraine, about the relatives and friends who were tortured and murdered by the Russian regime, and the terrors of life in a “lawless society.” It was these conversations around the Sachnoff dinner table that inspired Lowell to become a lawyer—and to wield the law as an instrument for justice.

As a student at Chicago's Senn High School, Lowell excelled in and outside of the classroom. He was a star on the swim team—and was even offered a full academic scholarship at Harvard and, later, Harvard Law. But before beginning his legal career, Lowell decided to first serve his country. He enlisted in the military and served as a lieutenant commander and naval intelligence officer during the Korean war. It was an experience that led to Lowell discovering one of his many lifelong passions: the Russian language. At first, he learned Russian as part of his intelligence responsibilities—but he stuck with it.

In fact, I remember a conversation we had about 10 years ago. Lowell told me he was still practicing Russian—60 years later—through the online education platform Coursera. It is just one example of his boundless love for learning and discovery. And Lowell's curiosity—like his commitment to equal justice—only grew as the years went on.

After serving in the military, Lowell brought his fight for justice home. He graduated from Harvard Law, with honors, and soon emerged as a legal legend and a civil rights icon. Lowell always understood that the cause of civil rights and human rights never comes to a final verdict. Those dedicated to freedom and fairness forge new contests and take on new battles every day.

And for Lowell, the litany of causes began in the 1960s. In his pursuit of justice, he took on cases that most lawyers would never touch. One of them was a lawsuit against the Chicago Police officers who murdered two members of the Black Panther Party while they slept. One of the victims was Fred Hampton. It was the height of the civil rights movement, and tensions were even higher. But true to his fearless nature, Lowell took on the case—and won.

A few years later, Lowell scored another victory for justice. He won a jury verdict regarding the routine, unlawful strip-searching of women by Chicago Police. Years after that, he won another historic verdict protecting the rights of women seeking reproductive healthcare. Time and again, Lowell fought for equality in every form—racial, gender, economic, you name it. He made no exceptions—because he was on a mission to heal the world for everyone.

In 1981, Lowell's firm Sachnoff & Weaver represented a transgender pilot

who had been fired because of her gender identity. Today, nearly 40 years later, our Nation still has a long way to go in protecting the rights of transgender Americans. But with that case, Lowell helped introduce a legal rationale for enshrining transgender rights into the Civil Rights Act—which happened decades later.

During our many years of friendship, Lowell never once called me on behalf of a paying client. Others would speak for them. The one time Lowell did call me about a case, it involved a man who had no voice in our system of justice. He was an accused terrorist who had been imprisoned in Guantanamo Bay for 15 years with no formal charge and no hope for a trial. Many considered the case a lost cause. Others considered it too controversial to touch. But Lowell never gave up. He believed that, even though the road to justice may be long, he had a responsibility to reach the end of it. So he pushed onward, for years, with a group of lawyers who shared his belief that Guantanamo was a “stain on our justice system.”

Lowell even traveled to Guantanamo Bay six times, when he was in his 80s, to meet with detainees. And eventually, he and his cocounsel negotiated the release of four men who had been held captive for years. Lowell poured his whole heart into the case, as he did with every case. When he saw injustice, in any form, he couldn't help but think of his family who fled Ukraine. And he couldn't help but act.

Really, there is a simple explanation for Lowell's long record of legal victories: He not only had a big, generous heart—but a big, sharp mind to match. In the words of the head of the Illinois ACLU, Colleen Connell, Lowell was a “lawyer's lawyer . . . you could only be impressed [by] how he was able to conceptualize and bring a legal argument to life.”

And Lowell shared his wisdom and love for the law with everyone who worked with him. Perhaps his favorite part of leading Sachnoff & Weaver was mentoring younger litigators. He would take them under his wing and share whatever legal wisdom he could. These young lawyers became known as Lowell's “ducklings,” a nickname that has stuck even to this day, when said ducklings are now in their 60s and 70s.

It was while working at Sachnoff & Weaver that Lowell joined forces with his most powerful ally in the fight for justice: his wife Fay Clayton. They met while working as lawyers in the same department, and things remained strictly professional for a few years. But soon enough, the sparks flew. They fell in love and became quite the power couple, working together to build a more equitable system of justice for everyone.

Fay was captivated by the same qualities that so many of Lowell's friends loved: his zeal for life, learning, and creative expression. When they first started dating, Lowell would even surprise Fay with poems he had writ-

ten for her. And his gift for writing was another of Lowell's passions that only grew as the years went on.

Lowell and Fay were true believers in the idea that, no matter how busy life becomes, we should always find time to engage with our lifelong passions and chase new adventures. And together, that is exactly what they did—from scuba diving off the coast of Mexico, to growing vegetables, baking challah, going to jazz and classical music concerts, and swimming.

Of course, nothing made the two of them happier than sharing their love for adventure with the children and grandchildren. As one example, Lowell and Fay made a promise to each one of his grandkids: Pick any place in the world you want to go, and we will take you. And they made good on that promise, traveling to Australia, Kenya, Peru, Greece, and Croatia. It was a true family world tour.

And in honor of Lowell's lifelong love for learning, his children have paid a fitting, final tribute. They created a writing prize, named in Lowell's honor, at his alma mater Senn High School. It is a gift that will support a new generation of changemakers, so they can follow Lowell's footsteps in the fight for justice.

I mentioned Lowell's love for poetry. One of his favorite poets was William Butler Yeats. Yeats once observed, “The world is full of magic things, patiently waiting for our senses to grow sharper.” Lowell lived his life sharpening and fine-tuning his senses to discover the world's magic things. He did it through the law, through his relationships, and through his voracious appetite for knowledge. And by devoting his life to healing our world, he uplifted countless others in their journey to discover those magic things. He set an example we would be wise to follow. The world has lost a good man.

Loretta and I join Fay; Lowell's children Scott, Marc, and Kate; his stepchildren Kim and Suzanne; his grandkids Allie, Sam, Joel, Monica, and Sasha; and his great-granddaughter Sofia in mourning his loss. We miss him dearly. And we send our love to you all.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT TAYLOR MITCHELL

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, today, I want to honor U.S. Army SSG Taylor Mitchell who tragically lost his life last month in a Blackhawk training exercise at the young age of 30.

Family members describe Sergeant Mitchell as an “all-American man” with a positive outlook, a love of flying, and a desire to serve—all of which prompted him to enlist in the U.S. Army in 2014. After completing training at Fort Jackson in South Carolina, he was assigned to the 2nd Calvary Regiment in Vilseck, Germany, as a healthcare specialist. Upon meeting requirements to become a flight para-

medic, he joined the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade at Fort Riley, KS, as a flight paramedic noncommissioned officer. In November 2020, he transitioned to the 101st Airborne Division of Combat Aviation Brigade, continuing this role until the time of his death.

He is survived by his wife Hayli Jo; his parents Jay and Darlene; brothers Garrett, BJ, and Joseph; grandmother Patricia Scoper; and six nieces and nephews.

Alabama is grateful for Sergeant Mitchell's willingness to serve in our Nation's military, and we mourn the tragedy of a life taken too soon. His love of country and devotion to duty are an inspiration. We will make sure that his legacy is never forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO BRAD WATTS

Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, over the years, I have taken a moment to recognize the hard work and dedication of my staff as they depart and advance their professional development. One of the most capable staffers I have had the honor of working with is Brad Watts, who served as my chief counsel for more than 4 years.

Brad is truly one of a kind. He is tenacious, tireless, and objectively brilliant. He has earned a reputation for being someone you want on your team advocating on your behalf because he will fight for you tooth and nail and leave nothing on the table. And he has earned a reputation for being someone you don't want to see on your opposing team because he is one tough negotiator who can take you to hell and back.

Brad became my chief counsel shortly before the 116th Congress, which is when I first became chairman of the Intellectual Property Subcommittee. I don't think Brad came in knowing much or anything about intellectual property, which is regarded as one of the most difficult areas of law for even the most intelligent lawyers to pick up.

Not only did Brad pick it up, he excelled at it. Our subcommittee was the most active one on the Senate Judiciary Committee during the 116th Congress as we explored ways to improve and modernize our intellectual property system.

Perhaps most notably, we held a historic 3-day sprint of hearings during which we heard from 45 different witnesses about the broken state of patent eligibility. Only someone as hardworking as Brad could have made that happen.

Brad was also instrumental in negotiating, writing, and passing some of the most consequential bipartisan legislation in generations during the 117th Congress, addressing issues long considered to be “third rails” in American politics.

One example was the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. Brad was masterful throughout the negotiation process as Senators and their staff worked

nonstop to forge a compromise. The end result was passing the first law in more than three decades aimed at reducing violence, expanding access to mental health services, and improving community safety. And we did it in a way that protected the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans.

Later that year, Brad was assigned another important task: making major modifications to the Respect for Marriage Act and winning enough votes to pass it through Congress. It is a sensitive issue for both sides of the political spectrum that required a well-thought-out approach, and Brad played a key role in reaching that compromise that included a number of new legal protections for religious institutions and nonprofits. These new protections struck the right balance, and the bill earned the bipartisan support it needed to pass both Chambers and be signed into law.

Neither of those bills would have even gotten a vote had Brad not been at the negotiating table and burning the midnight oil every single day.

I take pride in playing an active role in the professional development of my staff, and it was no surprise that the private sector also took notice of Brad's personal dedication and policy expertise. The Chamber of Commerce hired him to serve as their vice president of innovation policy. It is a testament to the work he put in to quickly become of the Nation's top policy experts on intellectual property.

While I am sad to see him go, I am also very proud of the work he has done through his service to the State of North Carolina and the U.S. Senate. And I am excited to see the great things he will accomplish in the coming years. To borrow a line from one of Brad's favorites, the legendary Dolly Parton, "You'll never do a whole lot unless you're brave enough to try."

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MATT ROTHSCHILD

• Ms. BALDWIN. Madam President, today I rise to honor Matt Rothschild, executive director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, on his retirement. Over the span of Matt's 43-year career, he has been a tireless advocate for democracy, social and economic justice, and civil rights and liberties.

After graduating magna cum laude from Harvard in 1980, Matt went to work as an editor for the Multinational Monitor, working for Ralph Nader in Washington, DC. In 1983, he moved to Wisconsin to take a job as staff writer with *The Progressive Magazine*. In 1994, he advanced to senior editor and chairman of the board of directors for the magazine. While with *The Progressive*, Matt was also the director of *The Progressive Media Project* and published the book, "You Have No Rights: Stories of America in an Age of Repression." While at *The Progressive*, Matt

wrote hundreds of stories on issues ranging from threats to civil liberties, to social justice, to peace, to environmental concerns. He interviewed notable figures in the arts, politics, and economics including Wendell Berry, Naomi Klein, Bill McKibben, Robert Redford, Alice Walker, Allen Ginsberg, and Joseph Stiglitz.

In 2015, Matt joined the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign where he focused the efforts of the organization on banning gerrymandering, protecting and expanding the freedom to vote, getting rid of dark money in politics, and opposing anti-democracy efforts. Matt has the distinguishing quality of being everywhere, all at once, and has taken his vital messages about protecting democracy to hundreds of radio and television broadcasts, newspaper articles, opinion columns, social media and, in person, doing talks to good government groups in nearly every community in Wisconsin, letting citizens know what is at stake and how to get involved to redirect Wisconsin's future. While at the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, he also wrote "Twelve Ways to Save Democracy in Wisconsin," which tells the story of what a once-progressive State lost after Act 10 was enacted in 2010 and the Republicans, through the creation of unfair maps, held a lock on government.

Matt has been a leading voice in Wisconsin for over 40 years. He has advocated tirelessly, doing so with kindness and good humor, always willing to engage with those who disagreed with him as much as those who did. Today, as Matt moves into retirement, he will step aside to leave space for others to fill because that is what Matt is about: paving the way for the next generation to continue the good fight. I feel honored to call Matt my friend and will be forever grateful for all he has done for the citizens in our State and for the voice he has given to democracy in these perilous times.●

TRIBUTE TO KEITH BICSAK

• Mr. DAINES. Madam President, today I have the distinct honor of recognizing Keith Bicsak of Cascade County for his longstanding commitment to providing medical response and transport for countless sick and injured Montanans through his role as a critical care flight paramedic.

For 52 years, Keith has diligently provided emergency medical services—EMS—to folks throughout the Treasure State. His time-honored career is a testament to his passion and expertise in providing emergent lifesaving care. Keith's calling to selfless service began with his family's own ambulance service, Bicsak Emergency Air Transport—BEAT—which later became Mercy Flight, its esteemed crew proudly serving Montanans today.

EMS providers like Keith and the lifesaving care they deliver remain a vital component to the overall health and wellness of the State of Montana

and the United States of America. These men and women choose to put their lives on the line as they stand ready to respond to any disaster or crisis they may encounter. Professionalism, expertise, and grace under fire enable these heroes to deliver swift and efficient lifesaving care to families in need.

Keith's passion for helping Montanans is evident through his distinguished career, as he now steps into a new season of life and enjoys a well-deserved retirement. As Keith reflects back on his time as an EMS provider, he is quick to point out the great experience it has been and the "work families" he has made along the way. He continues to encourage younger generations to pursue careers in emergency services to help build up Montana's EMS workforce in order to ensure needs are being met in every corner of the State.

It is my distinct honor to recognize Keith Bicsak for his revered 52 years of frontline service in helping Montanans reach health and safety. I am confident that Keith's work as an EMS provider will long be remembered and appreciated by families throughout the Treasure State. Thank you for your selfless service, Keith. You make Montana proud.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1339. An act to require the Federal Communications Commission to review certain rules of the Commission and develop recommendations for rule changes to promote precision agriculture, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2811. An act to provide for a responsible increase to the debt ceiling, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 39. Joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to "Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414".

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 35. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate a King Kamehameha Day Lei Draping Ceremony.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1339. An act to require the Federal Communications Commission to review certain rules of the Commission and develop recommendations for rule changes to promote precision agriculture, and for other

purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 2811. An act to provide for a responsible increase to the debt ceiling, and for other purposes.

S. 1395. A bill to temporarily suspend the debt limit through December 31, 2024.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1105. A communication from the Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rescission of Implementing Legal Requirements Regarding the Equal Opportunity Clause's Religious Exemption Rule" (RIN1250-AA09) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1106. A communication from the Board of Trustees, National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual management report relative to its operations and financial condition for fiscal year 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1107. A communication from the Policy Analyst, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Food Labeling, Infant Formula Requirements, Food Additives and Generally Recognized as Safe Substances, New Dietary Ingredient Notification; Technical Amendments" (Docket No. FDA-2022-N-2898) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1108. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Analyst, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Devices; Technical Amendments" (Docket No. FDA-2021-N-0246) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1109. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing Benefits" (29 CFR Part 4044) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1110. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Analyst, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Definition of the Term 'Tobacco Product' in Regulations Issued Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act" (Docket No. FDA-2022-N-3262) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1111. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Analyst, Food and Drug Ad-

ministration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Change of Address; Technical Amendment" (Docket No. FDA-2023-N-0986) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1112. A communication from the Deputy Associate General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Minimum Standards for Driver's Licenses and Identification Cards Acceptable by Federal Agencies for Official Purposes; Extending Enforcement Date" (RIN1601-AB03) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1113. A communication from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to seven (2) reports relative to vacancies in the National Archives and Records Administration received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1114. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bureau's fiscal year 2022 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1115. A communication from the Director, Equal Employment Opportunities and Diversity Programs, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's fiscal year 2022 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1116. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the first session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1117. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a notice regarding a legislative proposal, that would grant the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) statutory authority to collect trademark licensing fees from trademarks owned or controlled by DHS; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1118. A communication from the President, Chief Scout Executive, and the National Commissioner, Boy Scouts of America, transmitting, pursuant to law, the organization's 2022 annual report; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1119. A communication from the Chair of the Administrative Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report entitled "Equal Access to Justice Act Awards Report to Congress Fiscal Year 2022"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1120. A communication from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report relative to Article III judgeship recommendations for the 118th Congress and draft legislation entitled "Federal Judgeship Act of 2023"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1121. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the first session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1122. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedule of Fees for Consular Services - Non-immigrant and Special Visa Fees" (RIN1400-AF33) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. WICKER):

S. 1386. A bill to provide compensation to certain residents of the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico, for the use of such island for military readiness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1387. A bill to reauthorize the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program Authorization Act of 2018, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1388. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to enter into contracts to demonstrate or validate technology related to the integration of unmanned aircraft systems into the national airspace system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 1389. A bill to reform rural housing programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAGERTY, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 1390. A bill to repeal the sunset provision of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR:

S. 1391. A bill to amend title 39, United States Code, and the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to improve procedures and requirements related to election mail; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. SMITH, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1392. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the adjustment of status of essential workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1393. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require disclosure of

payments for settlements of disputes regarding sexual abuse and certain types of harassment and discrimination, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 1394. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to launch a nuclear weapon using an autonomous weapons system that is not subject to meaningful human control, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1395. A bill to temporarily suspend the debt limit through December 31, 2024; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. Res. 186. A resolution seeking justice for the Japanese citizens abducted by North Korea; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. Res. 187. A resolution authorizing the taking of a photograph in the Senate Chamber; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 10

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 10, a bill to improve the workforce of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 25

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 25, a bill to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, and for other purposes.

S. 41

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 41, a bill to reauthorize the READ Act.

S. 176

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 176, a bill to amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to extend and expand the Market Access Program and the Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program.

S. 206

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 206, a bill to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to regularly review and update policies and manuals related to inspections at ports of entry.

S. 396

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New York

(Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 396, a bill to require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti and impose sanctions on political and economic elites involved in such criminal activities.

S. 414

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 414, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and to expand eligibility for dependency and indemnity compensation paid to certain survivors of certain veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 443

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) were added as cosponsors of S. 443, a bill to treat certain liquidations of new motor vehicle inventory as qualified liquidations of LIFO inventory for purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

S. 547

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 547, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the First Rhode Island Regiment, in recognition of their dedicated service during the Revolutionary War.

S. 549

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 549, a bill to require enforcement against misbranded milk alternatives.

S. 569

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to amend title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act with respect to flexibility and funding for the World Trade Center Health Program.

S. 597

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 597, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 652

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 652, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require a group

health plan or health insurance coverage offered in connection with such a plan to provide an exceptions process for any medication step therapy protocol, and for other purposes.

S. 800

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 800, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a higher rate of tax on bonuses and profits from sales of stock received by executives employed by failing banks that were closed and for which the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation has been appointed as conservator or receiver.

S. 805

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 805, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to increase civil penalties for, and improve enforcement with respect to, customs fraud, and for other purposes.

S. 915

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 915, a bill to require Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation of the Inspector General of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

S. 949

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 949, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to transition the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 1045

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1045, a bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to clarify that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and appropriate Federal regulators have the authority to claw back certain compensation paid to executives.

S. 1122

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1122, a bill to improve the program to provide for priority review of human drug applications to encourage treatment for agents that present national security threats.

S. 1173

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1173, a bill to ensure high-income earners pay a fair share of Federal taxes.

S. 1176

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr.

WYDEN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 1176, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes.

S. 1183

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1183, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of mental or physical disability in cases of organ transplants.

S. 1201

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1201, a bill to reform the labor laws of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1249

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1249, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the procedural rules for penalties.

S. 1271

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1271, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to trafficking of illicit fentanyl and its precursors by transnational criminal organizations, including cartels, and for other purposes.

S. 1300

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1300, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of the late Prime Minister Golda Meir and the 75th anniversary of the United States-Israel relationship.

S. 1315

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1315, a bill to improve the provision of care and services under the Veterans Community Care Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1318

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from New Mexico

(Mr. LUJAN) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1318, a bill to provide enhanced protections for election workers.

S. 1324

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1324, a bill to establish the Southwestern Power Administration Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1358

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the names of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1358, a bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 and the Flood Control Act of 1968 to provide for provisions relating to collection and retention of user fees at recreation facilities, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 9

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 9, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Lesser Prairie-Chicken; Threatened Status with Section 4(d) Rule for the Northern Distinct Population Segment and Endangered Status for the Southern Distinct Population Segment".

S.J. RES. 15

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. J. Res. 15, a joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to "Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414".

S.J. RES. 18

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 18, a joint resolution disapproving of the rule submitted by the Department of Homeland Security relating to "Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility".

S. CON. RES. 7

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 7, a concurrent resolution condemning Russia's unjust and arbitrary detention of Russian opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza who has stood up in defense of democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections in Russia.

S. CON. RES. 9

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Connecticut

(Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 9, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that there is a climate emergency which demands a massive-scale mobilization to halt, reverse, and address its consequences and causes.

S. RES. 185

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 185, a resolution designating April 2023 as "Financial Literacy Month".

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. SMITH, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1392. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the adjustment of status of essential workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to introduce the Citizenship for Essential Workers Act.

This legislation would provide a pathway to citizenship for these workers and their families, who have played a critical role in getting us through the pandemic and are helping with recovery efforts.

A little over 2 years ago, after I was first sworn into the U.S. Senate, this was the very first bill I introduced.

Every day, over 5 million essential workers without permanent legal status kept Americans healthy, fed, and safe during the COVID pandemic—all while risking their own health and the health of their families.

They couldn't just Zoom into the office.

Many served us while living in constant fear of deportation.

Back then, for the first time, Americans were waking up to a reality what families like mine knew for years: that not only were these immigrant workers saving lives in a time of need but that their work had always been essential to our country.

As the proud son of immigrants from Mexico whose mother worked as a housekeeper and father a short order cook—two jobs that today would be deemed essential—I can only imagine the fear and uncertainty my family would have experienced every day my dad walked out the door or my mom set off to enter another family's home in the middle of a pandemic.

The Federal COVID-19 public health emergency comes to an end next month, but we can't forget the sacrifices these workers made—and still make every single day—for our country.

My legislation not only honors their sacrifice but also recognizes how critical essential workers are to our economy even beyond a public health emergency.

They have earned their place in this country.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1395. A bill to temporarily suspend the debt limit through December 31, 2024; read the first time.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1395

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF PUBLIC DEBT LIMIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, shall not apply for the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2024.

(b) SPECIAL RULE RELATING TO OBLIGATIONS ISSUED DURING EXTENSION PERIOD.—Effective on January 1, 2025, the limitation in effect under section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, shall be increased to the extent that—

(1) the face amount of obligations issued under chapter 31 of such title and the face amount of obligations whose principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States Government (except guaranteed obligations held by the Secretary of the Treasury) outstanding on January 1, 2025, exceeds

(2) the face amount of such obligations outstanding on the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) EXTENSION LIMITED TO NECESSARY OBLIGATIONS.—An obligation shall not be taken into account under subsection (b)(1) unless the issuance of such obligation was necessary to fund a commitment incurred pursuant to law by the Federal Government that required payment before January 1, 2025.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 186—SEEKING JUSTICE FOR THE JAPANESE CITIZENS ABDUCTED BY NORTH KOREA

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 186

Whereas the United States Government recognizes that North Korea was abducting Japanese citizens since the 1970s;

Whereas, in September 2002, North Korea admitted that it had abducted Japanese citizens and promised to prevent further recurrences;

Whereas, in October of 2002, only 5 abductees were returned to Japan after being held prisoner for 24 years, despite the explicit commitment of North Korea to investigate what had happened to all abductees;

Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights upholds the basic principles of liberty and freedom enshrined within the

United States Constitution and Bill of Rights;

Whereas human rights awareness is essential to the realization of fundamental freedoms and contributes to promoting equality, preventing conflict and human rights violations, and enhancing participation in democratic processes;

Whereas these abductions of Japanese citizens by North Korea directly conflict with the basic principle of liberty and freedom; and

Whereas there have been several attempts at dialogue between North Korea and Japanese leaders in an effort to yield stable results: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on North Korea to release any abducted foreign nationals, including those from Japan;

(2) urges North Korea to return the remains and provide information on any deceased abductees;

(3) urges North Korea to make such reparations as are appropriate regarding abductees; and

(4) urges North Korea to apologize and permanently cease such activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 187—AUTHORIZING THE TAKING OF A PHOTOGRAPH IN THE SENATE CHAMBER

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mrs. FISCHER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 187

Resolved, That rule 13.1 of the United States Senate Chamber and Galleries Regulations (prohibiting the taking of pictures in the Senate Chamber) be temporarily suspended for the sole and specific purpose of permitting the Senate Photographic Studio to photograph the Senate in actual session on May 2, 2023.

SEC. 2. The Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate is authorized and directed to make the necessary arrangements therefore, which arrangements shall provide for a minimum of disruption to Senate proceedings.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1395 and H.R. 2811

Mr. SCHUMER. I understand there are two bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the first time en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1395) to temporarily suspend the debt limit through December 31, 2024.

A bill (H.R. 2811) to provide for a responsible increase to the debt ceiling, and for other purposes.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I now ask for a second reading and I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

AUTHORIZING THE TAKING OF A PHOTOGRAPH IN THE SENATE CHAMBER

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 187, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 187) authorizing the taking of a photograph in the Senate Chamber.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 187) was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR TOMORROW, TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, finally, I ask unanimous consent when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 2; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Farbiarz nomination; further, that the cloture motions filed during Wednesday's session ripen at 11:30 a.m. and that notwithstanding rule XXII, following the cloture vote on the Farbiarz nomination, the Senate vote on cloture on the Kirsch nomination; that following the cloture vote on the Kirsch nomination, the Senate recess subject to the call of the Chair to allow for the weekly caucus meetings and taking of the official photograph of the 118th Congress; further, that when the Senate reconvenes, all postcloture time on the Farbiarz nomination be considered expired and the Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; that at 5 p.m., if cloture has been invoked on the Kirsch nomination, the Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, followed by a vote on cloture on the Merchant nomination; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. For the information of the Senate, there will be two rollcall votes at 11:30 a.m., one rollcall vote following the photograph, and two rollcall votes at 5 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:15 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate May 1, 2023:

THE JUDICIARY

ANTHONY DEVOS JOHNSTONE, OF MONTANA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 2, 2023 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 3

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Energy, including the National Nuclear Security Administration.

SD-192

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-124

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine the real cost of fossil fuels.

SD-608

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the 2024 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers budget and implementation of Water Resources Development Act of 2022.

SD-406

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine barriers to mental health care, focusing on improving provider directory accuracy to reduce the prevalence of ghost networks.

SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 396, to require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti and impose sanctions on political and economic elites involved in such criminal activities, S. 682, to pro-

vide for the treatment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) as an international organization for purposes of the International Organizations Immunities Act, S. 1240, to modify the requirements for candidate countries under the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, S. 841, to authorize the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, to enhance the United States-Caribbean security partnership, to prioritize natural disaster resilience, S. 797, to establish and implement a multi-year Legal Gold and Mining Partnership Strategy to reduce the negative environmental and social impacts of illicit gold mining in the Western Hemisphere, an original bill entitled, "Western Hemisphere Partnership Act", S. Res. 119, recognizing the 202nd anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating democracy in Greece and the United States, S. Res. 157, commemorating the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Good Friday Agreement, S. Res. 106, condemning Beijing's destruction of Hong Kong's democracy and rule of law, S. Res. 99, supporting the goals of International Women's Day, S. Con. Res. 7, condemning Russia's unjust and arbitrary detention of Russian opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza who has stood up in defense of democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections in Russia, S. Res. 115, supporting the goals and ideals of "Countering International Parental Child Abduction Month" and expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress should raise awareness of the harm caused by international parental child abduction, S. Res. 23, demanding that the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China immediately release Mark Swidan, and the nominations of Elizabeth Allen, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy, Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Florida, to be Representative of the United States on the Executive Board of the World Health Organization, Pamela M. Tremont, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe, and Nicole D. Theriot, of Louisiana, to be Ambassador to the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, all of the Department of State, Elizabeth Shortino, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund, Kenneth M. Jarin, of Pennsylvania, to be Chair, and to be a Member, and Jeffrey Gedmin, of the District of Columbia, Kathleen Cunningham Matthews, of Maryland, Luis Manuel Botello, of Maryland, and Michelle Mai Selesky Giuda, of Virginia, each to be a Member, all of the International Broadcasting Advisory Board, and routine lists in the Foreign Service.

S-116

2 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Homeland Security

To hold hearings to examine combatting transnational criminal organizations and related trafficking.

SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on State Department and USAID Management, International Operations, and Bilateral International Development

To hold hearings to examine the global information wars.

SD-419

Committee on Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 1308, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to extend the deadline for the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate regulations implementing title IV of that Act; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine S. 195, to provide compensation to the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community for the taking without just compensation of land by the United States inside the exterior boundaries of the L'Anse Indian Reservation that were guaranteed to the Community under a treaty signed in 1854, S. 382, to take certain land in the State of Washington into trust for the benefit of the Puyallup Tribe of the Puyallup Reservation, and an original bill to amend the Act of August 9, 1955, to modify the authorized purposes and term period of tribal leases.

SD-628

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights

To hold hearings to examine competition in the digital advertising ecosystem.

SD-226

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

MAY 4

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine worldwide threats; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Subcommittee on Commodities, Risk Management, and Trade

To hold hearings to examine commodity programs, credit, and crop insurance, focusing on industry perspectives on risk management and access to credit.

SD-106

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the National Institutes of Health.

SD-192

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine holding executives accountable after recent bank failures.

SD-538

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

<p>Committee on the Budget To hold hearings to examine debt limit legislation.</p> <p>SD-608</p> <p>Committee on Energy and Natural Resources To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.</p> <p>SD-366</p>	<p>1 p.m. Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions To hold hearings to examine preparing for the next public health emergency, focusing on reauthorizing the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act.</p> <p>SD-430</p>	<p>MAY 16</p> <p>2:30 p.m. Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure To hold hearings to examine perspectives on new and existing US Army Corps of Engineers authorities to respond to water management issues including drought and water conservation.</p> <p>SD-406</p>
<p>10:15 a.m. Committee on Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stephanie Syptak-Ramnath, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Peru, Arthur W. Brown, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ecuador, Yael Lempert, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and Roger F. Nyhus, of Washington, to be Ambassador to Barbados, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Antigua and Barbuda, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, all of the Department of State.</p> <p>SD-419</p>	<p>MAY 10</p> <p>10 a.m. Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the National Park Service.</p> <p>SD-366</p> <p>1 p.m. Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions To hold hearings to examine the need to make insulin affordable for all Americans.</p> <p>SH-216</p>	<p>MAY 31</p> <p>2:30 p.m. Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife To hold hearings to examine water affordability and small system assistance.</p> <p>SD-406</p> <p>POSTPONEMENTS</p> <p>MAY 3</p> <p>3 p.m. Committee on Veterans' Affairs To hold hearings to examine the effectiveness of the Office of Integrated Veteran Care.</p> <p>SR-418</p>

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1429–S1444

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1386–1395, and S. Res. 186–187. **Pages S1440–41**

Measures Passed:

Authorizing a photograph in the Senate Chamber: Senate agreed to S. Res. 187, authorizing the taking of a photograph in the Senate Chamber.

Page S1443

Hsu Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Wesley L. Hsu, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Page S1436**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Orelia Eleta Merchant, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. **Page S1436**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1436**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1436**

Hunt Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of LaShonda A. Hunt, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. **Page S1436**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Wesley L. Hsu, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Page S1436**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1436**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1436**

Shogan Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Colleen Joy Shogan, of Pennsylvania, to be Archivist of the United States. **Page S1437**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of LaShonda A. Hunt, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. **Page S1437**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Pages S1436–37**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1437**

Gupta Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Geeta Rao Gupta, of Virginia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues. **Page S1437**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Colleen Joy Shogan, of Pennsylvania, to be Archivist of the United States. **Page S1437**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1437**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1437**

Farbiarz, Kirsch, and Merchant Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Michael Farbiarz, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey; that the motions to invoke cloture filed during the Wednesday, April 26, 2023, session ripen at 11:30 a.m., and that notwithstanding Rule XXII, following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Michael Farbiarz, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Robert Kirsch, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey; that following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Robert Kirsch, Senate recess subject to the call of the Chair to allow for the weekly caucus meetings and the taking of the official photograph of the 118th Congress; that when the Senate reconvenes, all post-cloture time on the nomination of Michael Farbiarz, be considered expired and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; that at 5 p.m., if cloture has been invoked on the nomination of Robert Kirsch, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Orelia Eleta Merchant, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. **Page S1443**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 49 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 101), Anthony Devos Johnstone, of Montana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Pages S1429–36

Messages from the House: **Page S1439**

Measures Referred: **Pages S1439–40**

Measures Read the First Time: **Page S1440**

Executive Communications: **Page S1440**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1441–42**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1442–43**

Additional Statements: **Page S1439**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—101) **Page S1436**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 7:15 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1443.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House will meet at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2023.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Subcommittee on Commodities, Risk Management, and Trade, to hold hearings to examine commodity programs, credit, and crop insurance, focusing on producer perspectives on the farm safety net, 9 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Army, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine advancing security and prosperity through international conservation, 10:30 a.m., SD–124.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Air Force in review

of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine the current readiness of the Joint Force, 3 p.m., SR-232A.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine Department of Defense space activities in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program, 4:45 p.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program, focusing on improving community resilience, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development, to hold hearings to examine rural housing legislation, 2:45 p.m., SD-538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for East Asia and the Pacific, 3 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider S. 1067, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to citizen petitions, S. 1114, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the 180-day exclusivity period, S. 1214, to set forth limitations on exclusive approval or licensure of drugs designated for rare diseases or conditions, S. 1339, to provide for increased oversight of entities that provide pharmacy benefit management services on behalf of group health plans and health insurance coverage, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine improving access to Federal grants for underserved communities, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine Supreme Court ethics reform, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of May 2 through May 5, 2023

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Michael Farbiarz, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, and vote on the motion to invoke

cloture thereon at 11:30 a.m., followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Robert Kirsch, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Michael Farbiarz, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon following the taking of the official photo of the 118th Congress.

If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Robert Kirsch, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 5 p.m., followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Orelia Eleta Merchant, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: May 2, Subcommittee on Commodities, Risk Management, and Trade, to hold hearings to examine commodity programs, credit, and crop insurance, focusing on producer perspectives on the farm safety net, 9 a.m., SD-106.

May 4, Subcommittee on Commodities, Risk Management, and Trade, to hold hearings to examine commodity programs, credit, and crop insurance, focusing on industry perspectives on risk management and access to credit, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Appropriations: May 2, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Army, 10 a.m., SD-192.

May 2, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine advancing security and prosperity through international conservation, 10:30 a.m., SD-124.

May 3, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Energy, including the National Nuclear Security Administration, 10 a.m., SD-192.

May 3, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., SD-124.

May 3, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, to hold hearings to examine combatting transnational criminal organizations and related trafficking, 2 p.m., SD-138.

May 4, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the National Institutes of Health, 10 a.m., SD-192.

Committee on Armed Services: May 2, to hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be

immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

May 2, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine the current readiness of the Joint Force, 3 p.m., SR–232A.

May 2, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine Department of Defense space activities in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program, 4:45 p.m., SR–222.

May 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine worldwide threats; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: May 2, to hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program, focusing on improving community resilience, 10 a.m., SD–538.

May 2, Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development, to hold hearings to examine rural housing legislation, 2:45 p.m., SD–538.

May 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine holding executives accountable after recent bank failures, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: May 3, to hold hearings to examine the real cost of fossil fuels, 10 a.m., SD–608.

May 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine debt limit legislation, 10 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: May 2, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

May 4, Full Committee, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: May 3, to hold hearings to examine the 2024 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers budget and implementation of Water Resources Development Act of 2022, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: May 3, to hold hearings to examine barriers to mental health care, focusing on improving provider directory accuracy to reduce the prevalence of ghost networks, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: May 2, Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for East Asia and the Pacific, 3 p.m., SD–419.

May 3, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 396, to require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti and impose sanctions on political and economic elites involved in such criminal activities, S. 682, to provide for the treatment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) as an international organization for purposes of the International Organizations Immunities Act, S. 1240, to modify the requirements for candidate countries under the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, S. 841, to authorize the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, to enhance the United States-Caribbean security partnership, to prioritize natural disaster resilience, S. 797, to estab-

lish and implement a multi-year Legal Gold and Mining Partnership Strategy to reduce the negative environmental and social impacts of illicit gold mining in the Western Hemisphere, an original bill entitled, "Western Hemisphere Partnership Act", S. Res. 119, recognizing the 202nd anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating democracy in Greece and the United States, S. Res. 157, commemorating the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Good Friday Agreement, S. Res. 106, condemning Beijing's destruction of Hong Kong's democracy and rule of law, S. Res. 99, supporting the goals of International Women's Day, S. Con. Res. 7, condemning Russia's unjust and arbitrary detention of Russian opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza who has stood up in defense of democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections in Russia, S. Res. 115, supporting the goals and ideals of "Countering International Parental Child Abduction Month" and expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress should raise awareness of the harm caused by international parental child abduction, S. Res. 23, demanding that the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China immediately release Mark Swidan, and the nominations of Elizabeth Allen, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy, Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Florida, to be Representative of the United States on the Executive Board of the World Health Organization, Pamela M. Tremont, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe, and Nicole D. Theriot, of Louisiana, to be Ambassador to the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, all of the Department of State, Elizabeth Shortino, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund, Kenneth M. Jarin, of Pennsylvania, to be Chair, and to be a Member, and Jeffrey Gedmin, of the District of Columbia, Kathleen Cunningham Matthews, of Maryland, Luis Manuel Botello, of Maryland, and Michelle Mai Selesky Giuda, of Virginia, each to be a Member, all of the International Broadcasting Advisory Board, and routine lists in the Foreign Service, 10 a.m., S–116, Capitol.

May 3, Subcommittee on State Department and USAID Management, International Operations, and Bilateral International Development, to hold hearings to examine the global information wars, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

May 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stephanie Syptak-Ramnath, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Peru, Arthur W. Brown, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ecuador, Yael Lempert, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and Roger F. Nyhus, of Washington, to be Ambassador to Barbados, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Antigua and Barbuda, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, all of the Department of State, 10:15 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: May 2, business meeting to consider S. 1067, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to citizen petitions, S. 1114, to amend the Federal Food,

Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the 180-day exclusivity period, S. 1214, to set forth limitations on exclusive approval or licensure of drugs designated for rare diseases or conditions, S. 1339, to provide for increased oversight of entities that provide pharmacy benefit management services on behalf of group health plans and health insurance coverage, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD-430.

May 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine preparing for the next public health emergency, focusing on reauthorizing the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act, 1 p.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: May 2, to hold hearings to examine improving access to Federal grants for underserved communities, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on Indian Affairs: May 3, business meeting to consider S. 1308, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to extend the deadline for the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate regulations implementing title IV of that Act; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine S. 195, to provide compensation to the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community for

the taking without just compensation of land by the United States inside the exterior boundaries of the L'Anse Indian Reservation that were guaranteed to the Community under a treaty signed in 1854, S. 382, to take certain land in the State of Washington into trust for the benefit of the Puyallup Tribe of the Puyallup Reservation, and an original bill to amend the Act of August 9, 1955, to modify the authorized purposes and term period of tribal leases, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: May 2, to hold hearings to examine Supreme Court ethics reform, 10 a.m., SH-216.

May 3, Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine competition in the digital advertising ecosystem, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: May 2, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

May 3, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House Committees

No hearings are scheduled.

Résumé of Congressional Activity

FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House.

The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 3 through April 30, 2023

	<i>Senate</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Total</i>
Days in session	56	59	..
Time in session	243 hrs., 41'	223 hrs., 58'	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	1,427	2,121	..
Extensions of Remarks .....	..	384	..
Public bills enacted into law	30	2	..
Private bills enacted into law .....	..	..	..
Bills in conference .....	..	..	..
Measures passed, total	92	111	203
Senate bills	13	1	..
House bills .....	..	50	..
Senate joint resolutions	1	..	..
House joint resolutions	4	7	..
Senate concurrent resolutions .....	..	..	..
House concurrent resolutions	3	8	..
Simple resolutions	71	45	..
Measures reported, total	*33	42	75
Senate bills	15	..	..
House bills .....	..	25	..
Senate joint resolutions .....	..	..	..
House joint resolutions .....	..	3	..
Senate concurrent resolutions .....	..	..	..
House concurrent resolutions .....	..	3	..
Simple resolutions	18	11	..
Special reports	9	1	..
Conference reports .....	..	..	..
Measures pending on calendar	34	20	..
Measures introduced, total	1,599	3,464	5,063
Bills	1,380	3,021	..
Joint resolutions	25	60	..
Concurrent resolutions	9	36	..
Simple resolutions	185	347	..
Quorum calls	1	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	100	94	..
Recorded votes .....	..	107	..
Bills vetoed .....	..	2	..
Veto overridden .....	..	..	..

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 3 through April 30, 2023

Civilian nominees, totaling 246, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	40
Unconfirmed	204
Withdrawn	2
Other Civilian nominees, totaling 838, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	333
Unconfirmed	505
Air Force nominees, totaling 919, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	827
Unconfirmed	92
Army nominees, totaling 4,823, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	3,660
Unconfirmed	1,163
Navy nominees, totaling 507, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	92
Unconfirmed	415
Marine Corps nominees, totaling 1,088, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,029
Unconfirmed	59
Space Force nominees, totaling 359, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	359
<i>Summary</i>	
Total nominees carried over from the First Session	0
Total nominees received this Session	8,780
Total confirmed	6,340
Total unconfirmed	2,440
Total withdrawn	2
Total returned to the White House	0

*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 15 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 43 reports have been filed in the House.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, May 2

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Michael Farbiarz, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 11:30 a.m., followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Robert Kirsch, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Michael Farbiarz, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon following the taking of the official photo of the 118th Congress.

If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Robert Kirsch, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 5 p.m., followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Orelia Eleta Merchant, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

(Senate will recess subject to the call of the chair following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Robert Kirsch for their respective party conferences and the taking of the official photo of the 118th Congress.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, May 2

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 11 a.m.



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